



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Howard County Police Chief Joins National Effort to Combat Domestic Violence

Howard County Police Chief William J. McMahon has been chosen as one of 23 law enforcement executives nationwide to participate in a National Law Enforcement Leadership Institute on Violence Against Women. The institute is being sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

During the three-day seminar in Atlanta next week, Chief McMahon will join other participants in exploring innovative approaches for investigating crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking. The executives will share information about challenges and solutions in their own communities.

“This is a great opportunity to learn more about best practices around the country related to domestic violence and to talk about the successes we have seen over the last few years in Howard County,” McMahon said.

McMahon has made combating violence against women a top priority in his two years as police chief. Under his direction, the department created its first-ever domestic violence unit, dedicated solely to investigating and prosecuting domestic violence cases. Detectives assigned to the unit focus on helping victims, arresting repeat offenders and training patrol officers who often are the first responders to domestic violence incidents.

“I am not at all surprised that Chief McMahon was chosen,” said Howard County Executive Ken Ulman. “The Chief has made combating violence against women a top priority in his two years as police chief and he serves on the board of directors for the Howard County Domestic Violence Center. Obviously this is a mission he knows and cares deeply about.”

According to the IACP, program participants will develop action plans to take back to their agencies that can best help victims and hold perpetrators accountable.

Expenses for participants to attend the institute are covered under a grant awarded to the IACP from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

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